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MI[illegible]EGUS

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 2 MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL, BROOKLYN, N. Y. November 20, 1959

A.E.C. Presents Show

The United States Atomic Energy Commission sponsored a program called "This Atomic World" on Monday, November 2, in Midwood's auditorium. This production was one of six units operated by the Museum Division of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies, under contract with the Atomic Energy Commission. The A.E.C. organized these units for the presentation of demonstration-lecture programs to secondary schools throughout the United States.

A demonstration at the A.E.C. assembly

The program was, as expressed in a press bulletin, "concerned with some of the basic principles and peaceful applications of atomic energy and with the importance and value of science studies to high school students."

The speaker, Mr. Albert J. McManus, sprinkled humor into his presentation of scientific facts. He spoke, for instance, of the experimentation now being carried on to expose food to radiation during packing. Not only does radiation sterilize food, but also eliminates the need for refrigeration. "Sometimes this process causes the taste of food to change," he added. Then he quipped, "They're thinking of testing it in high school cafeterias."

On October 7th, 21st and 28th, members of the advanced dramatics class, under the direction of their teacher, Mr. Hirsch, presented a radio play entitled "The Bid Was Four Hearts." The theme of this program, presented in the auditorium was "The brotherhood of Man."

The play was a true story which dealt with the courage of four World War II chaplains. Mr. Levine, of Midwood's music department, arranged and played the music. The members of the advanced dramatics class also performed twice at Kensington.

The assembly program scheduled for September 23rd was a Pep Rally. At that time, the football team was presented to the school. The coach, Mr. Eisenberg, spoke about the prospects for the season. Later the Cheerleaders, Band, and Twirlers performed.

In the near future, on December 2nd, 9th and 16th, the advanced dramatics class will present another program. This time, the members will perform a condensed version of "Inherit the Wind." On December 23rd, Midwood will present its annual Christmas Show.

NEW MEMBERS OF ARISTA AND ARCHON INSTALLED

Arista and Archon, Midwood's honor societies, held their Installation Assembly on Wednesday, November 18.

Bob Ginsberg, Arista secretary, read a bible selection. Richard Lapin, boy leader of Arista and chairman of the assembly, introduced mayor Peter Melnick who gave the welcome address. Then the Mixed Chorus, under the direction of Mrs. B. Tillis, sang "Hallelujah Amen" by Handel, the "Pilgrim's Chorus" by Wagner, and a spiritual, "The Ole Ark's A Moverin".

Honor societies' leaders: l. to r. David Goodman, Ellen Reinhold, Lois Wasserspring, Richard Lapin.

The candles representing Scholarship, Character, and Service, were lit by Ester Spilberg, Matt Cooper, and Harry Saal, respectively. Lois Wasserspring, girl leader of Arista, administered the oath to the new members of Arista. David Goodman, boy leader of Archon, administered the oath to the new members of Archon.

The Midwood Orchestral Society, under the direction of Mr. B. Chancy, played an arrangement of Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony. Dr. Bernstein concluded the assembly.

The new members of Arista include: Arthur Ammann, Wendy Aronson, Irving Barnett, Karen Barondess, Richard Barrett, Barbara Bazura, Selma Berlowitz, Richard E. Cahn, Marion Cantor, Andrew Cederbaum, Marc Chaikin, Jonathan Chaves, Ellen Cohen, Dorothy Compton, Matthew Cooper, Delores Crystal, Marian Demas, Harold Dembo, Linda DeSanto, Michele Dubron.

Lotte Feinberg, David W. Fink, Ted Fischkin, Patricia Fisher, Judy Fleiss, Benjamin Folkman, Robert Friedman, Robert H. Friedman, Kenneth Friedman, Ronald Gordon, Jeffrey Gerstin, Iris Glazer, Barbara Gollance, Michael Golubov, Lorna Greene, Harold Gross, Jane Gruber, Steven Haas, Brenda Herman, Jane Isaacson, Ada Janow, Jane Kahn,

CONT'D ON PAGE 2

JAPANESE PROFESSORS STUDY SCHOOL SYSTEM

By GARY ENGLEBERG

A group of Japanese teachers tour[illegible] Midwood on Tuesday, October 28, in an effort to learn more about the American system of education.

The instructors, dispatched by the Japanese Minister of Education, had travelled throughout the country before coming to New York. They said that [illegible]e country was as beautiful as Japan, but on a much "wider scale". They also noticed that there were many Japanese products sold throughout the United States, most of which were very inexpensive.

Discussing the good and bad points of Japan and Japanese schooling, they said that since the food in their homeland is not as nutritious as it is here, they have to encourage their students to eat more fish and meat.

The educators spoke of the respect that a Japanese student has for his parents and teachers. Some Midwood students evidenced surprise when the educators expressed the opinion that there is too much formality among the Japanese. They claim it prevents them from getting close enough to their pupils to help them with their individual problems.

When these men compared a Japanese high school student to an American pupil on the same level, they found that the basic subjects: social studies, mathematics, the sciences, and a foreign language are studied by both. However, in a regular high school in Japan, the students have a six day week. Their schedule includes six hours a day, Monday through Friday, and four hours on Sunday. The vocational schools have a more rigorous program.

Sports in Japan play as large a part in education as they do here. Activities such as football, baseball, and swimming, which are common in our secondary schools are also practiced there.

The visitors presented Dr. Bernstein with a modern abacus, a device used in calculating mathematical problems. They also made him a gift of a fan with a song written out in bold, black, Japanese letters.

SENIORS PLAN ACTIVITIES; PROMS LEAD GRADS' EVENTS

By DONALD WATERS

Members of the January and June 1960 graduating classes of Midwood High School are planning many activities. The events include the traditional senior day, show, breakfast, dance and finally, the senior prom. In addition, projects such as Suzanne and the Senior Weekly are proceeding under the auspices of the upper classmen.

Seventh termers made out prom pledges, and returned them to their home-room presidents Wednesday, November 4. The officers collected money for the prom tickets on Monday, November 16.

As in former years, Midwood will hold its prom at the Roosevelt Hotel Friday, June 3, 1960. The Senior Council voted down a proposal that the affair be in the form of a dinner-dance, rather than the customary dance. Other events for the June grads are still in early stages of planning and dates for them will be announced soon.

For the third year in a row, Midwood seniors, through the "Save the Children Federation", will aid in supporting Suzanne, a thirteen year-old French war orphan. Early this term, senior officers, Judy Fleiss and Cecil Forster, asked their classmates to donate ten cents each, for this cause. Because only a part of the amount needed has been donated to date, each senior homeroom was asked to collect two dollars in order to reach the desired sum.

The Senior Weekly, edited by the seventh term officers contains information vital to upper classmen interested in college or job placement. Commenting on the publication Judy Fleiss, Senior president, said, "The Senior Weekly is important, because it brings all Midwood seniors together, thus making it the only way that our class, the largest in the school's history, is really unified."

Epilog, another senior publication, hired a photographer to take pictures of the prospective graduates for the combined January and June issue.

January class officers Adele Hoffman, Ethel Kaplan and Ethelou Haberman are also planning events for their three hundred fellow-grads. The most notable of these is the prom, planned for the end of December, at the Elegante, a supper club.

Student Leaders Meet at Andover; Swap Sentiments

By MARION PFEFFER

Peter Melnick and Dave Hammer, Midwood's mayor and comptroller, respectively, attended the Richard Welling General Organization Conference, on the weekend of October 30th, at Andover, New Jersey.

The delegates to the conference, all of whom are leaders in student government in New York City's High Schools, from the boroughs of the Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island, discussed matters of common importance.

The subjects debated included, "What criteria should be used for granting service credit?"

The two representatives from the City of Midwood felt that they could benefit little from this discussion, because of the progressive student organization found at our school. They tried, however, to offer suggestions leading to the improvement of the general organizations of the other high schools represented.

When questioned about the significance of this meeting, Peter Melnick replied, "This conference greatly helped me to understand better the reason for student government. It made me realize with greater clarity, that the primary purpose of the City of Midwood is to educate and not merely to provide an entertaining activity."

Representatives from high schools in Manhattan and Queens later met at Andover during the weekend of November 7th.

ARISTA-ARCHON

(Continued from page 1)

Joan Kane, Philip Karver, Judy Katz, Joseph Kendler, Madeline Kinzelberg, Barry Klein, Elizabeth Kline, Margie Krinsky.

Carol Lawrence, Marlene Lederman, Susan Lerner, Judy Levi, Dan Levine, Alan Levitt, Shelley Lichterman, Mary Mark, Stephen Mayer, Carroll Mc Gorkey, Bruce Miller, Bruce Milner, Phyllis Morel, Eva Penny, Marsha Pershan, Marylou Portnoy, Joan Rhine, Raymond Roos, Arlene Rosenthal, Myra Rosenthal, Marilyn Rubin, Sara Rudner.

Harry Saal, Martin Sachs, Ellen Schaps, Sandy Scheiner, Myra Schurr, Judith Seinberg, Meri Seinfeld, Iris Sexter, Carl Shames, Vivian Shulim, Anita Silberman, Michael Silverstein, Roni Sloan, Dale Solkow, Marie Sollito, Esther Spilberg, Richard Stern, Sara Stilly, Judy Stutman.

Barbara Takce, David Tischler, Sandra Tobin, Gloria Van Straten, Martha Vogel, Gloria Weinberg, Merle Weiss, Emily Weissler, Lenore Weitzman, Arthur Wiesenthier, Janice Winkleman, Alice Wollin, and Gladys Wugman.

The new members of Archon include: Josephine Allessi, Ruth Arnowsky, Wendy Aronson, Michael Barrett, Marsha Berkman, Steven Berman, Geraldine Bernstein, Marsha Blassman, Russel Boyer, Nancy Brown, Richard Cahn, Marion Cantor, Stuart Chagrin, Marc Chaikin, Stephen Citron, Ellen Cohen, Dolores Crystal, Harvey Dombroff, Robert Erbstein, Lotte Feinberg, Eve Felsenthal, Binnie Firestone, Judith Fleiss, Robert Florin, Benjamin Folkman, Minna Fox.

Barbara Gasser, Robert Ginsberg, Toni Ginsberg, Susan Godwin, Nancy Goldin, Arthur Goldsmith, Eugene Gover, Linda Greenberg, Phyllis Grob, Harold Gross, James Grossman, Barbara Handshu, David Harris, Alice Hoffenberg, Samuel Holtzman, Ellen Imberman, Rita Ingber, Jane Isaacson.

Renee Jacksier, Joel Kaminer, Sandra Kaufman, Sheila Kligman, Richard Lapin, Roberta Levine, Robert Levine, Anne Levinson, George Levitt, Jane Levy, Joel London, Katherine Lubart, June Malament, Kenny Mazlen, Cheryl McKoy, Jeffrey Merrill, Roy S. Meyers, Sandra Miller, Meryl Millins, Phyllis Morel, Arthur Morris, Evelyn Newman, Judy Padow, Eli Plotkin, Marylou Portnoy, Lesley Posner.

David Rapaport, Adriane Rosenstein, Harry Saal, Martin Sachs, Sandra Saget, June Salwen, Linda Santulli, Philip Schwartz, Patricia Seaver, Judith Seingerg, Marilyn Seltzer, Frances Shapiro, Matthew Sheinin, Myra Sherman, Leslie Silber, Arthur Silberstein, Meryl Singer, Roni Sloan, Dale Solkow, Margery Sorock, David Soskis, Steven Spirn, Sharon Stein, Richard Stern, Stephen Strausberg, Doris Strauss, Judy Stuttman, Barbara Takce, Patricia Treib.

Martha Vogel, Richard Walker, Ruth Wallach, Lois Wasserspring, Gary Weinstein, Carol Weissberg, Beverly Weitzman, John Wexler, Janice Winkelman, and Frank Wolfson.

This term, several candidates were eliminated from the honor groups because of bad behavior in homeroom or in classes.

The Vassals
DANCE BAND
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City Roundup . .

A Hootenanny, (folk song fest) took place in the music lounge during the long "M" home room, Wednesday, October 28. The music commissioner, Matt Sheinin, sponsored the Sing with the assistance of Harriet Warshauer.

A group of four students led the singing. Carl Shames played the five-string banjo and Michael Smith, Johnny Wexler, and Bob Lewis played guitars. The 60 folk singers assembled in the lounge joined in singing some folk songs known to all and some known to only a few present. Carl Shames and Michael Smith played two instrumentals together on the banjo and guitar, respectively.

The Folk Sing, is the first of its kind in the school. Several of the folk-song enthusiasts expect that more folk sings will occur in the near future. At future gatherings, the music commission will supply mimeographed song sheets, so that more people may join in singing.

As part of its program for this semester, the F.D.R. Commission has instituted a new system alloting "pen pals" to Midwood students.

Under a plan described by Mayor Peter Melnick at the October 30 City Council meeting, the group will be able to register under a single tuition fee of thirty dollars. Members will hold discussions regularly, one lesson from the University's syllabus being the subject of each discussion. Mr. Tublin, a member of Midwood's social studies department, will be the faculty adviser.

Midwod students may now be able to enroll in groups of fifteen, in special correspondence courses offered by the University of Chicago.

Midwood held its first dance of the year in the girls' gym, on Friday, October 28, 1959, at 8:00 P.M. The dance, called the "Sputnik Spin", was an informal affair.

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HOOTENANNY HITS LOUNGE

The entertainment included a vocal group from Midwood known as the "Starlights." This group includes Alan Dishel and Mike Bernhardt of Midwood and Eddie Valdemier of Adelphi Academy. Bob Ross and Karen Stock won the lindy contest

"Road Ahead," "Patterns," and "Sam J", Midwood's three extra-curricular magazines, have recently elected their officers.

The new leaders of "Road Ahead," the social studies magazine which is scheduled to come out at the end of the term are: editor-in-chief, David Soskis and assistant editors Joe Kendler and David Goodman. "The Different Aspects of Revolution" is the theme of this issue.

"Patterns," the literary-art magazine, is headed this year by editor-in-chief, Carroll McGorkey. The appointed officers are Ellen Schaps, assistant editor, and Ben Schonzeit, art editor.

"Sam J", planned for the end of this term, is headed by editor-in-chief Harold Gross. His associate editor is Stephen Mayer. This term, the magazine will "attempt to be of value to all students, not only to those particularly interested in science or math," averred Harold Gross.

Doxa, the Midwood High School Girls' Health Education Honor Society, held its semi-annual installation on Tuesday, November 17. The candle lighting ceremony took place in room 271 in the presence of Dr. Bernstein, several members of the faculty and the parents of the inductees.

Last term the "Girls of Glory", elected Marsha Berkman as chancellor, Dorothy Rodgers to the post of scribe, Evelyn Yazwinski as treasurer and Eve Filsenthal as co-scribe.

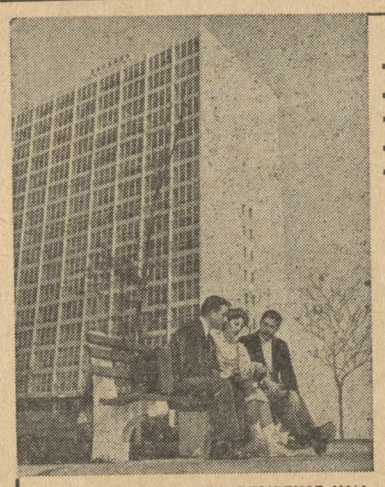
In addition to the installation of the newly elected officers, thirteen new members were inducted. At the ceremony, the members-elect received Doxa pins and emblems, the latter to be worn on their gym uniforms.

A minimum average of 85 percent in health education and a scholastic average of 75 percent are two of the requirements for Doxa. Recommendations from the homeroom teacher, two Health Education teachers and one subject teacher are also needed for admission.

The applicant is then observed during a probation period which lasts for the third of the term. A vote is then taken, to determine the acceptance or rejection of the probationer.

MIDTERM SCHEDULE

Monday, November 23		Tuesday, November 24		Wednesday, November 25	
I 8:15-9:30	English 7 English 7M (1 hr)	I 8:15-9:30	English 8 English 5 English 5M (1 hr)	I 8:15-9:45	Math 8, 6, 5, 5X, E, F Merchandising 3 Merchandising 4 (1 hr)
II 9:50-11:20	Accounting 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Business Arith. 2 Math 3 Math 2, 1 (1 hr)	II 9:50-11:20	Clerical Practice 1 (1 hr) French 6, 5 Secretarial Practice (1 hr) Spanish 6, 5 Stenography 2, 1	II 10:05-11:35	Biology 5, 4, 3 Gen. Sci. 2M (1 hr) Lab. Techniques Modern Science 1 (1 hr)
III 11:40-1:10	Social Studies 4, 3, 3H	III 11:40-1:10	Social Studies 5, 5H Social Studies 1	III 11:55-1:10	English 4, 3 Social Studies 6 (2 hrs) Stenography 3 (1 hr)
IV 1:30-3:00	French 1 (1 hr) Law 1 Merchandising 2, 1 Math 7, 4 Math C (2 hrs) Spanish 1 (1 hr)	IV 1:30-3:00	Clerical Pract. 4, 3, 2 (1 hr) French 4, 3 Spanish 4, 3 Stenography 4 (1-2/3 hrs)	IV 1:15-2:30	GENERAL CONFERENCE IN AUDITORIUM



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English Prof, Mr. Granit Sees U.S.S.R; Announces Release of First Novel

By ABBY WETTAN

Mr. Arthur Granit, author and English teacher at Midwood, spent two weeks in the Soviet Union this summer. Reflecting on his experience, he confessed, "I went in confused and came out more confused."

Mr. Granit

"Russia means many things," he explained. "It is a country that has one foot in the 18th century, one foot in the 20th century and nothing in between." Mr. Granit noted, "a lack of individualism in the average person" and added that "almost everyone recited the same political line." He attributed these features to the fact that "the 20th century aspects of the Russia of today were deliberately planned along mass civilization lines," but feels that "in spite of this, the average Soviet citizen has the hunger for culture and learning, characteristic of those who have just been released from bondage."

Mr. Granit said the quality of goods, especially clothing, available in the stores is poor; however, "the Russian will readily admit to this and tell you it is because the investments are going into capital goods. The general air of the street is depressing because the people are not well-dressed. The young people are not even apparent. Crowds are very well-behaved, morals and tastes are Victorian and puritanical, yet alcoholism is rampant."

Asked to compare teenagers in the U.S. with those in the U.S.S.R., he said, "Our youth need less concern for self and more group and social identification to parallel the idealism of the average Soviet youth. " He did not feel that Soviet youth are under less tension than those in America. "Youth seethes in every country. In America, we let it blow steam as it sees fit; in Russia, it is harnessed."

Mr. Granit found Russian architecture "atrocious", and "the hotel service bad." "The land of the worker's paradise is more expensive to travel in than any capitalist country." When asked if he enjoyed Russian food, he said, "I ate black bread and caviar for breakfast every morning and drank 'kvass' as an aperitif." He was "warmly greeted" by adults who "thought New York City was composed entirely of skyscrapers and expressed great concern for the American Negro" and by children who "wanted Roosevelt dimes and bubble gum."

Mr. Granit's first novel, "The Time of the Peaches" was released by Abelard-Schuman, Ltd., November 12. The setting of the story is Brooklyn, New York. Short stories by Mr. Granit have appeared in "Midstream" and "Commentary" magazines, and distinguished anthologies, such as, "The Chosen," edited by Harold V. Rivalow; "The Best American Short Stories of 1956, edited by Martha Foley; "Prize stories (the O'Henry Memorial Award) of 1957," edited by Paul Engle and others.

Argus will review "The Time of the Peaches" in the next edition. Mrs. Betty Sierles, a member of the English department: "Arthur Granit has written an offbeat, grotesquely real novel whose characters are tragicomic in their not-so-quiet desperation. Although at times reminiscent of Dickens and Gogol, the book has an exciting and original style of its own. Readers will, no doubt, react intensely to "A Time of The Peaches" — an unusual first novel."

We Regret . . .

Mr. Carl Kravet, a former accounting teacher at Midwood, passed away on Monday, October 19, at the age of forty. His death was attributed to the after effects of an accident which he had suffered recently.

Mr. Kravet was transferred to Bushwick High School last June, after having taught here for three years. He was very popular with his students and colleagues. One pupil sent Mr. Kravet a letter saying that, thanks to his guidance, he had decided to go on with accounting in college, rather than discontinue his schooling after high school as he had planned. Mr. Kravet was the type of person who could command respect and also achieve an intimacy with his pupils, as this letter shows.

Argus would like to convey its deepest sympathies to his wife and two children.

Our Apologies to . . .

Argus would like to extend its apologies to Jeffry Sadock and Alice Siegal in describing their posts on "Epilog". Jeffry Sadock is Editor-in-chief of the January edition of "Epilog", and Alice Siegal is the literary editor of this edition.

KIDS DECK AVE "J"

Two groups tied for first place in the Halloween Window Painting Contest sponsored by the Kiwani Merchants' Association. This annual competition took place during the week of October 26, through October 30.

Marcia Blassman and Enid Wooster tied with Richard Noble for first prize. Second place was also a tie between Stephen Kelaski and Denise Lipshitz working as a team, and Andrew Reiss and Ronnie Stutzel, who also worked together. The team of Lynda Silberman and Meryl Singer tied for 3rd place with Phyllis Rheingold and Natalie Wisselman, who also worked as a team. Other mid-kids participating were: Amy Bookshin, Celia Strickler, Margie Heyman, and Tema Greenleaf.

The school provided water and paints and brushes for the "artists." The mid-kids painted Halloween scenes on the windows of stores on Avenue J between Coney Island Avenue and East sixteenth Street.

The Kiwani Merchants' Association, a businessmen's club, donated twenty-five dollars for division among the first, second and third prizes. The association designated the store windows that were open for use.

The judging took place on Friday afternoon, October 30, when Mrs. Claire Levy of the art department, and Mr. Daniel S. Lefkowitz, chairman of the art department selected the winners from among fifteen entries. After the judging, the art department exhibited photographs of the store windows taken the day of the contest.

Parents Confer with Teachers on Midkids' Progress, Nov. 9 & 12

The parents of Midwood students visited their children's teachers on Monday, November 12, as part of annual Open School Week.

On Monday, parents of A.M. session students arrived at 12:35 and stayed until 2:35, while parents of M. session students came at 12:35 and remained until 3:35. Those parents who could not see the teachers on Monday were able to speak to them on Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

To give the teachers ample time to discuss the work of their students with the parents, the administration shortened the school day. All periods were a half hour long. A.M. students left the building by 11:50 and the students on M. session by 12:35. Some students, however, remained after dismissal to help the teachers.

NEW G. O. STORE CONTEMPLATED; COMMITTEE REVIEWING PLANS

The Parent-Teachers' Association of Midwood High School is considering the establishment of a new G.O. store. This store will not be an extension of the present book store, which is sponsored by the English department and run by student volunteers.

The G.O. store will offer gym uniforms and equipment, review books for various courses, fiction and non-fiction of general interest, stationery, and other items. Many of these are presently on sale at different spots throughout the school. The new store will concentrate all sales in one place, thereby reducing the number of faculty members and hours of work needed to implement sales.

A committee composed of Mr. Jack Deckerman, Mr. Jack Willeg, Mr. Saul Gans and chairman Mr. Benjamin Warshauer is now in the process of investigating the plans and further possibilities inherent in such a venture. If the project materializes as is hoped by the P.T.A., Mrs. Ruth Carlyle will be the store manager. Students and parents will aid on a voluntary basis. Parents will set up a system for service, similar to the one used for parent volunteers working at the candy counter. Student workers will receive service credit.

The Midwood Memorial Scholarship Fund, and other funds set up in Midwood will receive the profits earned. These functions are presently supported by donations and proceeds from school functions.

Mr. Benjamin Warshauer confirmed this by saying, "We hope to use the proceeds from sales of this G.O. store to further worthy school organizations and activities."

City of Midwood Releases Budget

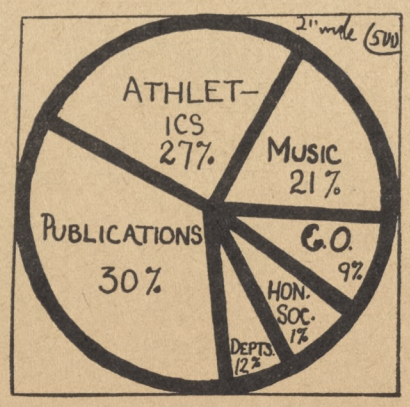
By JOAN KANE

Comptroller Dave Hammer and Finance Commissioner Joe Olewitz just released a budget graph for the September 1958 to June 1959 school year.

The graph at the right represents the total expenditure for last year. The total G.O. spending was $22,225.86.

G.O. dues, the revenue collected from athletic events, musical activities such as Sing and the Spring Music Concert, and other G.O. activities and dances account for the City of Midwood's income.

Athletic teams and clubs spent 27 percent of the total budget last year. Boys' intramurals, basketball team, gym team, cross country track team, swimming, tennis, football, rifle, baseball, soccer, golf, and handball teams were among the groups to receive this money. The Boosters, boys' and girls' health education activities and Kensington intramurals were also in this category.



The musical activities which received 21 percent of the total expenditure are: the choruses, the band and orchestra, the music lounge and the dance band.

The school publications, Argus, the school newspaper, Patterns, the literary magazine, and Road Ahead, the social studies publication, were granted 30 percent of the money distributed last year. The honor societies; Arista, Archon and the Spanish Honor Society received 1 percent of the monies spent.

Departmental requests and the appropriation for the City of Midwood totalled 21 percent.

The budget is planned bi-annually. The comptroller and the finance commissioner are the first to compile the budget, and it is then sent to the Board of Estimate for approval and changes. After this, the budget is sent to the councils for approval.

EDITORIAL . . . . . .

As Thanksgiving Day drew near, we decided tofind out what some of our fellow students felt they have to be thankful for.

Some are very quick to answer with an abrupt "nothing". Several others show a degree of thankfulness. They express appreciation for little things in their personal lives which to them seem so very important—their good mark on a test, or a new date for Saturday night.

There is another group of people, although very small, who really understand the meaning of giving thanks.

One member of this group felt that "we should be thankful that we live in a rich, democratic nation, where we are able to enjoy many rights and freedoms."

Another student was glad that "he was young and therefore able to benefit from the many scientific advances which are being made."

Still another student, on his way to the college office, expressed appreciation at his ability to further his education. This has been made possible, for many more students, since interest in studies has increased in the last ten years.

Millions of Americans, as well as people all over the world, are like this group of Midwood students. Some think only of themselves, others only of their families; still others think of all of mankind.

Just as there are different opinions of what Thanksgiving Day means, there are different ways of expressing our thanks. We may express our thanks verbally, through prayer, or practically, through actions. At school, many of our students show their appreciation by aiding others. The senior class at present helps to support a little French girl—Suzanne. Members of the Social Service Commission participate in aiding neighborhood hospitals. Those who work on the Welfare Commission visit homebound students and assist in drives for worthwhile organizations.

Let us, as we celebrate on Thanksgiving Day pause long enough to be really grateful. After all, that is the purpose of the holiday!

RUTH WALLACH

MIDWOOD ARGUS

MIDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
Brooklyn, New York
Dr. Jacob L. Bernstein, Principal

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Sports Editor ..... Roy Meyers
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the editor of the Midwood Argus:

I am sorry to say that I feel the salute to the flag is going from bad to worse. I have observed girls applying lipstick, eating tuna fish sandwiches, or talking about their last date. During the ceremony, boys are telling jokes, while the intellectual are doing the **Times** crossword.

It seems to me that if the salute were only enacted during the long homeroom on Wednesday respect would return. Now, it is just a disgraceful farce that is degrading to Midwood, the flag and the country. Is it not better to do away with the salute to the flag, than to have it continue in this fashion?

Steve Saikin 307A

Editor's Note:

The Argus has received very few "letters to the Editor" for our recent issues. It has often been necessary for our own staff to write letters to fill up the space allotted to this column. Unless there is greater participation, we shall be forced to discontinue this department.

Mayor's Desk

The primary goal of student government should be to help participants to mature, to learn to work with others, to face the future outside the classroom.

In the last issue of "Argus", I suggested the possibility of a change in the City of Midwood, which would be more in keeping with this purpose and thus would provide greater participation for a greater number of students.

I should like to adopt the ancient Athenian democratic system as a model of a new constitution for our student government. Admittedly. Athenian democracy had its imperfections; but nevertheless, it did have the particularly unique characteristic of having the most important governing body being composed of members **who were chosen by lot.**

This is my basic proposal: Rather than have a relatively small body of students participating in the fundamental activities of government, let us institute a system whereby the entire body of students, with scholastic averages of 75 percent or above, may have a broad opportunity to participate.

Their only other qualifications would be a written expression of sincerity and willingness to serve. They would be chosen by lot and serve on a combination executive and law-making body with highest authority in matters concerning student government. Some duties of this Council would be to consider all motions brought before it, form committees to investigate matters, and appoint permanent members of its commissions.

This is, I believe, a very democratic system which would afford the greatest amount of opportunity to the greatest number of students. Thus, student government would be less susceptible to domination by a small minority. *PETER MELNICK*

Principal's Message

Dear Boys and Girls:

In one of our classes a film on Israel was shown recently. The narrator in the film was a man who brought back memories to me of the time I was chairman of Social Studies at Midwood between 1941 and 1946. For this man was a former student I knew well—a brilliant linguist, a creative editor of Argus, a wonderful boy—who graduated from Midwood in 1946. I learned that, after graduation, he went to Israel, fought in the war, and was wounded, losing the sight of both eyes. But, in spite of this terrible handicap, he continued his study of languages, specializing in those of the Near East-Arabic, Egyptian, etc. He became professor of Near Eastern languages at a University in Israel and he is now an "exchange-professor" at Harvard.

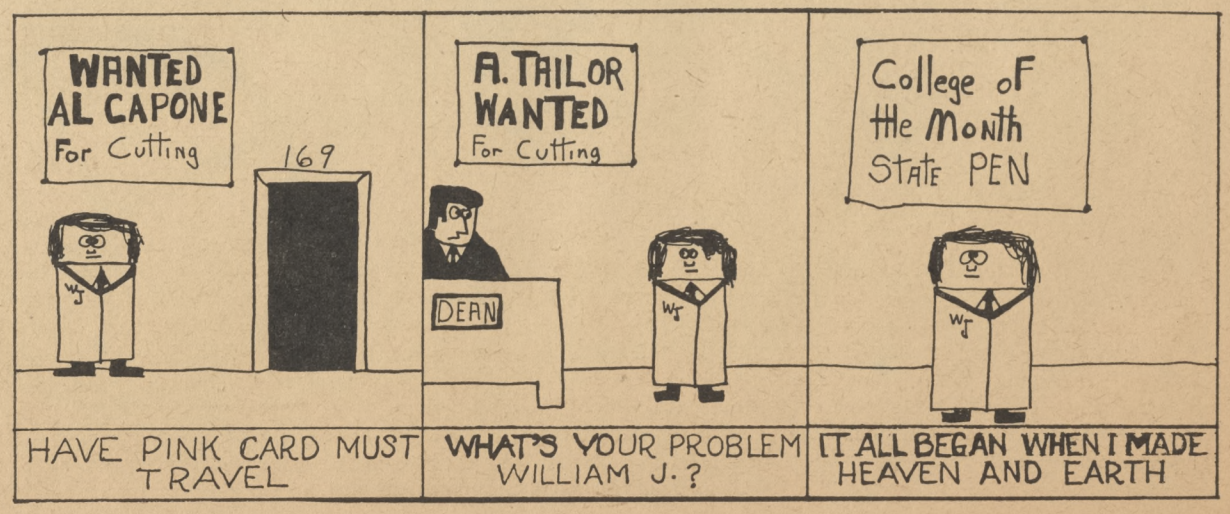
I tell you this story, because I consider it to be an example of the highest type of courage I can possibly imagine. Courage is not simply a physical phenomenon, such as you might see on the football field. It involves also the ability to stand up for what is right and to behave according to high ideals, even when subjected to abuse or ridicule. When I noted, for example, that Midwood spectators at a football game refrained from returning abuse for abuse, when they exercised enough self-control, under trying conditions, not to pay back in kind with jeers or abusive remarks while the school song of an opposing team was being played, I felt that this was an evidence of courage, at least in small measure. The student who dresses properly even if it is the unpopular thing to do also evinces a type of courage. Of course, this cannot be compared with the challenge which our alumnus had to face, but it is noteworthy, nevertheless.

Midwood can well be proud of illustrious alumni like Chyim Blanc, the young man of my story. His life and work can well serve as a source of inspiration to all of us. From his great heart and soul we can certainly learn to face the small daily challenges which we have to meet.

Sincerely yours,
J. L. Bernstein,
Principal

The World of William J.

WILLIAM MAZANEK



MEET YOUR TEACHER

Massachusetts-bred Albert Sayer is a graduate of Harvard College. He was fully intent on becoming a lawyer, when he "met and married a schoolteacher" who persuaded him to enter this field also.

In his twenty-five years of teaching, Mr. Sayer has taught at Eastern District, Bushwick, Brooklyn Tech, and of course Midwood, whose faculty he joined a year ago.

Mr. Sayer

For five years, Mr. Sayer worked for "High School of the Air," a radio program predominantly for disabled pupils. His most rewarding experience stemmed from one such student who had fears of leaving home. Finally, through sincere efforts, a selected group of teachers was able to persuade him to leave his house in order to perform at a piano recital.

The depression years found Eastern District High much delighted with the presence of the jovial spirit of this outstanding teacher. While aiding the students in facing the overwhelming economic problems of the times, Albert Sayer also viewed the hardships of people trying to get jobs, which were scarce. He considers it a grave disadvantage that "teenagers can graduate from high school without having faced any hardships at all, or having had to make a single important decision."

Several beautiful paintings done by his wife and daughter decorate Mr. Sayer's constantly buzzing office. (This information was volunteered with a proud grin.) He also enjoys a good game of golf, a hearty piece of "old fashioned crispy-crusted blueberry pie."

"If teenagers were trained to make wise decisions on their own, they might not be faced with the existing problem of juvenile delinquency which we encounter today. Better housing conditions, and less discrimination in education and employment," concludes Mr. Sayer, "would help to lessen the scourge of juvenile delinquency that we face."

Popcorn's Critique

Two balls of popcorn rolled off the padded seat of a New York movie house.

"Wow!" said the first.

"Owl" said the other.

"How many does this make?" asked the first.

Counting on his fingers, the other replied "Four that I can think of right now—'Wild Strawberries', 'The Magician', 'The Seventh Seal', and 'He Who Must Die'."

"Which did ya like best?"

"Uh, . . . can't say . . . really can't."

" 'Wild Strawberries' was nice."

"Eh."

" 'The Magician' was interesting."

"Eh."

"These foreign films are exceptional" said the first.

"Yeah," said the other.

"Do you remember the Indian productions, 'Pather Panchali' and 'Aparajito'? About the Indian family?"

"No."

"Everybody dies but the brother . . ."

"Sad."

"Beautiful movie . . . cinematized life. There was that strange instrument which sounded like a woman wailing . . . "

"But . . . "

"But what?"

"But it's so very sad. Why must they all die?"

"That's life."

"I prefer movies which contain a plot or an idea . . . "

"Such as . . . ?"

"In 'Wild Strawberries' we see that material success is not necessarily complete success; in 'The Magician' we see that some people cannot accept truth without proving it; in 'The Seventh Seal' we see man's search for knowledge of the unknown; in 'He Who Must Die' history repeats itself."

"Well . . . "

"So you see, whereas the Indian pictures present man's life in [redacted]mourous form, these others apply it to interesting circumstances."

The first ball of popcorn stared at his twin, pondering the latter's profundity. He acknowledged his own preference for "raw life cinema", and quietly rolled into the aisle, exposing the teeth marks on his left side. *Barbara Weiner*

Sticky Set Censured

Have you ever tried to remove your history notebook from your desk at the end of a period, to find it stuck fast to a sticky wad of chewing gum? If you answer, yes, perhaps you can understand why I implore, "Rid our school and city of Public Nuisance Number One, the Gum Chewer!" My plea is the result of many class periods of careful deliberation and conscientious study, during which time I have been slowly and constantly tortured by the rhythmic undulations of the jaws of the boy in the next seat.

Gum gourmets can be classified as four major types: the Bubble Blower, the Crackler, the Taffy-Puller, and the Contented Cow.

The Crackler's offense is felt most deeply during a math test. His spasmodic explosions prevent deep concentration, and destroy whatever vestiges of sanity one manages to retain after the fourth unsuccessful attempt at solving the same ninth degree equation. To no avail is a polite request to desist, for our friend answers absent-mindedly, "Want a stick of gum?" (I usually counter with a shuddered sound of disapproval, accompanied by a raised eyebrow and a withering sneer.)

Most suspense provoking is the Bubble Blower, who keeps one wondering when his spherical creation will burst, plastering his face with a thin film of rubbery substance. Sitting directly behind this type of chewer is a distinct disadvantage, for his bubbles often obscure the view of teacher and blackboard.

A deep mystery to me has always ben the Contented Cow. Is he one of Midwood's unfortunates, a "Man Without a Lunch Period"? Is he dieting? Or does the jaw motion help his brain to function? (I have noticed that the rate of chewing varies directly with the difficulty of the question asked by the teacher. The converse is also true.)

Of all breeds of gum chewers, my worst enemy is the Taffy Puller. I live in constant and abject dread of being caught in the sticky web, which he so deftly molds into so many interesting shapes. Several years ago, a strip of gum lodged in my hair as I entered the Gym locker room. Unable to remove it, I was obliged to sacrifice my waist-length pony tail for a crew cut.

My words of warning are extended to the gum chewers of the world, who have geen caught in a fateful trap. Escape is not easy! Maybe their best friends won't tell them, but I will.

June Malament

SPOTLIGHT

Although she may look like an ordinary untravelled Brooklynite at the tender age of sixteen, Elizabeth Kline has already seen more of this world than many of us will have seen by the age of sixty.

The reason for this is that her father, who is now a professor at N.Y.U., received a Fulbright-Guggenheim award to study in Germany. Elizabeth's family moved to Aachen, Germany in September 1958 where they established themselves for one year. Elizabeth entered a gymnasium, which is the equivalent of an American senior high and junior high school combined.

During the school vacation the Kline family went sightseeing in Europe and visited seven countries. Elizabeth liked Rome "best" of all the cities she visited. She thought Paris was "the most similar to New York," in respect to dirt that is, not architecturally.

The German school system is very different from ours.

The students attend school six days each week. Up to age eleven, the children attend a Volksschull. Then they take an examination in German and mathematics. Those who do very well in this test go on to a gymnasium and the rest go to vocational or commercial schools. Students entering a gymnasium have fixed programs.

Elizabeth, a senior at Midwood, is presently Sing Commision secretary and is on the staff of Patterns. After

Elizabeth Kline

graduation, she hopes to attend Radcliffe or Rochester where she will consider study in the language field.

One of the most important lessons Elizabeth learned in Germany was a personal one. During recess on the first day word got around that a new American girl was in school. "If you really want a lesson in poise," she says, "try maintaining your composure with eight hundred pairs of eyes looking you over from head to foot."

Jo Ann Frankel

Turkey Trouble Ruins Red Rug

Actually, I feel that my aunt is something of a rat. I've gotten rather sick of looking at her terribly avant-garde furniture, and there are more interesting pastimes than pulling turkey fragments out of the rug.

This miserable mess dates from Thanksgiving morning, when, despite my violent protestations I was dragged off to Long Island's sunny shores where my beloved aunt promised us a day of abject boredom, complete with a meal consisting of burnt turkey and soapy cranberry sauce. Therefore, I was in rather low spirits when my four screaming, kicking little brothers and I, complete with one set of overweight parents, crammed ourselves into our 1948 Plymouth and set out for our destination.

Only three hours, two flat tires, and one broken window (due to the exigencies of flying capguns) later, I found my cheeks being pinched by my dear Great Aunt Matilda. "My, how you've grown!" she gushed. Oddly enough, the good woman was annoyed when I asked her what she had expected after eleven years. But, by and large, the first hour or so was uneventful, as expected. Then came the fateful, festive turkey dinner.

This year, there was something new added. My aunt, anxious to show some result from two-hundred fifty dollars squandered on her daughters' dancing lessons, had prepared a twenty minute "recital" of skits to precede the carving of the turkey. The little darlings trundled around the floor portraying "John Smith and Pocohantus", "The Indian Rain Dance", "The Last Days of a Thanksgiving Turkey", and finally a sanctimonious masterpiece entitled "The Symbolic Carving." Then my uncle flourished his knife and ceremoniously cut the first slice.

I made some quick mental calculations. First of all, if the Turkey were as bad as last year's, I would develop a sudden stomach ache; Second, even if it were not, I would not be able to eat anyway after the nauseating spectacle I had just seen. Therefore, it was after deep deliberation that I calmly suggested to my brother that it might be a good idea to kick the table leg. . .

Ben Folkman

Alumnews

Congratulations to Mrs. Elaine Greenberg, former Midwood teacher and alumna, on the birth of Karin Rachel. Mrs. Greenberg is now in Chicago, where her husband is attending Chicago University Graduate School.

Michael Brenner, class of June 1957, received the first scholarship given by the Alumni Association of Brooklyn College for a "Junior Year in a European University." He is now studying at the University of Stockholm in Sweden.

Robert Schwager '56 has been awarded an Austen Colgate Scholarship at Colgate University for the fall term. These scholarships are traditionally awarded in recognition of distinguished academic achievements and were given to those students who attained a straight "A" average during the last semester.

Marjorie Greenberg Brecker has been named to the Dean's List for the School of Education at the George Washington University. She maintained more than a 3.5 academic average for the spring semester.

Jeffrey Diamond has been named to the Dean's List at Colgate University. Only 12 percent of the University's students attained this honor.

The following students have attained their Doctorates: Maxine Frank Singir '48, biochemistry; Alan Baron '48 psychology; Everett Dulit '46, physics; John Arenhs, chemistry; James (Stanley) Adelskin '45, biophysics; Ira Blei '48 biochemistry; Robert Levine '46, economics; Juliet Popper '49, psychology; Douglas Shepard '46, English; Jack Vovona '49, nuclear physics.

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Our Town...

The harsh glare of the unshaded street-light cast a cold and misty brilliance upon the moistened cobblestones and the rest of the scene below it. Somewhere in the distance, the hushed rumble of a blues drummer faded into oblivion. This was part of New York's Amsterdam Avenue; Spanish Harlem, at 4:15 A.M.

It had been a riotous night; the mobs of tourists and "regulators" had descended upon the streets in renewed acceleration. Yet, over the place hung a great isolation. The crowds were there; the music had boomed, and the girls . . . well they were there too. And now they were all alone. The tourists had gone, and the merrymaking had ceased. It was as if the laughter had only been a loan.

Somehow, the cool night air seemed disturbed by the repugnant odors of garbage and body sweat. Occasionally, the stillness of the dark was shattered by the agonized scream of a frightened child who had not yet learned the routine of life away from her native island. On either side, she was cramped by her brothers and sisters; the trials and adjustments that the girl would come to regard as 'matter of fact' were part of the daily hardships of most of the Puerto Ricans in our City.

Yet, in the deepest heart of this cut-off and subjugated minority was a very fervent willingness to work hard for self-improvement and community betterment. This was not an overt characteristic, however, and it had almost been purged out of the migrants by the vehement resentment which they were exposed to and had to live with. And, as in the cycle of all prejudice, persecuted people will turn on another minority group causing tension, resentment, and envy. Social friction is sometimes a queer thing; we often condemn it without realizing that we initiate the reasons for its being.

The atmosphere of 125th Street is charged with the staccato plink of the guitar and the beat of maracas, the poignant aroma of peppers is inviting. But while these earmarks enrich New York, they are part of a culture that has been left behind by many new Americans.

Jeff Sadock

Midmoods...

ZISLA TAICE

Midkids have very long ears. Always, they listen carefully, especially when the old grads return to "big wheel it" around the school.

How many re-visiting alumni have stopped short at the sight of the statue in Midwood's main hall; or the sight of anything else that went unseen during their high school days?

Most of the unusual or "nutty" things that happen in Midwood are overlooked by the student body. They occur too frequently to be exciting. It is only when the "old grads" meet to review their Midwood adventures that these experiences are relived, their humor or pathos especially appreciated for the moment. . . .

Says one Princeton man—

"I'll never forget the time I was riding in the elevator and overheard two English teachers arguing over a minute point in grammar. One of them concluded disgustedly that it was a crazy, mixed-up language anyway. I was really shocked!"

Another recalls . . . .

"I remember how crowded the bus used to be when we went to school; everyone was making so much noise. I used to look out of the steamy windows and groan at the thought of taking that same crazy ride for another four years because I HAD to go to Brooklyn College. I used to try and convince myself that college would be different, that it had to be, "it was just that bus ride that was driving me wild . . . "

A well heeled, luckily placed college Soph chortles . . .

"We certainly did a lot of worrying ov[redacted] college boards, scholarships and [redacted]ges. We used to be in suspense for months, haunting the college office, crossing our fingers, until we finally knew that we had been accepted into our college, a purely accidental LUCKY CHOICE."

Another grad pipes up . . .

"Funny things used to happen too. One time, when I walking in the hall, I was stabbed by somebody's compass. It was sticking out of a hole in her pocketbook and I got it, right in the arm."

And then, as the babbling continues, we hear . . .

"Listen, one time someone actually stepped on my ankle as I was going down the stairs."

"What? What were you doing? Crawling down?"

"Say, I've just realized that there are four telephone booths on the first floor. I don't remember ever having seen them before!!!"

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Brisk Autumn Predicts Icy Winter Ahead

The whistling wind beckons to me on a cool November afternoon. I feel compelled to walk through the changing city streets to view Nature's miracles. While strolling through thick carpets of tumbling dry leaves, I sniffed a faint aroma of distant bonfires. The silhouettes of trees almost bare cast their everchanging shadows on the drab sidewalks.

As I walk down Avenue J, I see people descending the stairs of the station. There are children, with ice skates nonchalantly flung over their shoulders, coming home from Central Park. Their damp ski pants show signs of tumbles and their rosy cheeks predict future colds.

The biting gusts of wind increase, scattering the fallen leaves in many directions. The dropping temperature has now brought the very first snow flurries. There are only a few, at first, but they soon begin to settle over everything. Now, I too have become covered by this white powder. Everyone's hair is coated with snowflakes, making the owners appear old and gray.

Now darkness has crept over the city. "Where have the daylight hours gone?" I ask myself. Then I realize that winter is almost here. As I look about, there are people heading in every direction for the shelter of their homes.

I decide that it is also time for me to return to my house. It is getting late. The cold bites at my cheeks and hands, driving me to the warmth of my home. I am quite happy to arrive finally in a warm and comfortable place. Feeling safe inside, I look out of the window to see Nature performing her miracle. Only yesterday it was an autumn day, but now the city is blanketed with snow. Drifts begin to pile up, imprisoning everything. My window shows signs of frost. With nothing more to do, I slip into a cozy bed with the realization that winter is here to stay for a while.

Paula Gelender and Marian Pfeffer

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Sportlight

Michael Vulpis is a football player, a very good football player. He won't tell you that, not even with prodding. His teammates and coach, however, will not only tell you how good he is but will also relate the story on how very close Midwood came to losing its star halfback to Madison.

After being graduated from parochial school, Mike had the option of attending either Midwood or Madison because of the borderline location of his house. The proximity of Madison and the fact that most of his friends played football for the Highwaymen made Madison the logical choice. However, the desire to play football for a good coach and a desire to attend a fine school led him to Midwood.

The 155 lb., 5 ft. 9 in. halfback joined the team as a fullback in his junior year, and immediately made varsity. "Not because I was so good, but because the coach needed a fullback and I had previous experience in sandlot play," is the way the overmodest Mr. Vulpis explained it.

Early this season, Mike was shifted from fullback to halfback to take advantage of his speed. This action was designed to give him a greater role in this season's offensive play.

The Senior gridman is currently planning to attend Hofstra College in the quest of an accounting career.

The exceptional backfieldman is already the proud possessor of four major letters. A versatile athlete as well as an industrious and determined student, Mike was a major factor in this year's winning season. Scoring twenty-two points on three touchdowns and two after point carries, he does not look and act like the typical football player. He is shy to the point where he underrates his accomplishments and boosts those of the other team members. A typical Vulpis comment on the reason Midwood's team enjoyed so successful a season only serves to reveal this. Mike believes that the Middies were so successful because this year "they were more serious, had a sincere desire to win and had lots of pep."

What he forgot to mention was that he was the source of the pep and was the one person who had urged the team to keep on fighting. The Madison game, in which he scored two touchdowns, one of them on a 45 yard run, illustrates this point.

Impressed as this reporter was with Michael Vulpis' athletic accomplishments in football, cross-country, and track, he was even more impressed with Mike an an individual because of his mature ideas on football and inter-school competition. A fierce competitor on the field, the mild-mannered half-back never lets his desire to win overshadow his sense of fair play and decency. Nor does he possess the win-at-any-cost attitude so characteristic of today's players.

The polite Middie, after attending Midwood for three years, is thankful for a number of things. He is thankful for a coach like Bill Eisenberg, thankful for the privilege of attending Midwood, and thankful for the wonderful boys who throw the blocks.

Midwood is thankful for Mike Vulpis.

RICHIE DOLINGER

SPORTS ROUNDUP . . . . .

CROSS-COUNTRY

The Midwood cross-country team while not winning any meet titles, has come up with a number of outstanding individual performances during the current season. The fine work of certain lower termers may well be a sign of better things to come.

On October 17, the Midwood runners competed in the New York University Meet at Van Cortland Park in the Bronx.. Finishing first for Midwood in the two and one half mile run was co-captain Ken Holmes, with the good time of 15:56. Another co-captain, Dave Fink, placed second in 16 minutes flat. The next three finishers for Midwood were sophomores Jay Weiner and Charlie Shedd, and co-captain John McKenna.

The Brooklyn Championships were held on Wednesday, October 28. Dave Fink contributed, in this meet, the fastest time Midwood has had in three years, when he was clocked in 15:16, and took a medal as the top Midwood finisher.

SWIMMING

The Midwood swimming team started the season badly by losing its first four matches to Curtis, Lincoln, Erasmus and New Utrecht High Schools.

Two of these matches were real heartbreakers with Midwood losing to New Utrecht 40-30 and to Erasmus 39-31. Among the outstanding Midwood competitors in the tough Erasmus contest were Larry Entel and Mike Golubov who excelled in the free-style event and Jeff Nagelberg, Howie Rudin and Jim McNally, all divers. The scores of the matches with Curtis and Lincoln were 42-28 and 47-23.

The reason for these losses was explained by Coach Herbert Solomon, "The first matches were lost only because of a lack of experience rather than a lack of skill." Under the instruction of Coach Solomon and the encouragement of Co-captains Steve Weiss and Ken Jonas, the team still hopes to rack up some victories for this season.

Other participating mermen of this year's team are: Larry Bergman, Mike Cane, Fred Goodman, John Colucci, Dave Teichman, Don Scannapieco, Mal Miller, Richard Wolfson, and Steve Scansberg.

BOWLING

The Midwood High School bowling team has once again launched a successful season. Under the leadership of Mr. Delaney, the team has secured a comfortable lead position in the battle for the division championship.

The Midwood attack is spearheaded by Allan Appel who sports a 185 average. Al Willinsky at 180, and Al Vladimer at 175, and Don Block at 160. Of these four starting players, only two, Al Vladimer and Don Block, can boast of previous experience on the squad, both being two year lettermen. Another bowler who does not start but figures prominently in the team's 170 average is Dennis Masse.

Displaying an admirable record for its first five meets, the team claims victories over Tilden, Erasmus, Madison, Hamilton, and Sheepshead Bay High School. The squad has succumbed only to Wingate. Future clashes on the Midwood schedule include meets against Erasmus, Tilden, Madison, Sheepshead Bay, Wingate and Hamilton.

When questioned as to the squad's performance this season, Coach Delaney replied that the team's performance has been good and that he is especially pleased with the efforts of the new members.

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MIDWOOD LOSES TITLE GAME

By MIKE HUSS

The Midwood football team made a gallant but futile effort to capture the P.S.A.L. Division III championship. Taking a 2-1 record into the final week of the season, the Middies defeated Erasmus 14-8. But, later that week, in the deciding contest, they suffered a crushing 28-14 defeat at the hands of Ronny Bliey and Tilden.

In the Erasmus contest, the Dutchmen scored early in the first quarter and converted successfully for 2 points. The score stayed that way until the end of that quarter. With the aid of fine blocking, especially by Artie Kaufman, halfback Artie Morris raced more than 60 yards for a touchdown. The score remained 8-6 until the fourth period, although Midwood was deep in Erasmus territory several times with the help of carries by Morris and halfback Mike Vulpis. In the last quarter, fullback Monte Spellman, a promising junior, on a 50-yard trap play appeared to have a touchdown, but was nailed on the Erasmus 10-yard line. On the next play, Monte again carried and this time successfully. Mike Vulpis scored the extra-points and the game ended with Midwood on top with a 14-8 score. Probably the best defensive play of the game occurred in the final minutes of play. With the Middies leading, Erasmus tried to advance on passes. One of them was headed for an Erasmus runner who could have easily scored. But to the relief of all of Midwood, Artie Kaufman intercepted the pass and thereby put the icing on the cake. It might also be added that the game was played in pouring rain.

Riding high, the Middies met Tilden later that week in the deciding game. This game was also played in the rain. Both teams had 3-1 records. However, victory semed far away for Midwood as

Tacklers stop Morris

the contest began. Tilden's sensational fullback, Ronny Bliey, scored early in the quarter. The conversion was good and Tilden led 8-0. The Blue and White boys bounced back on a touchdown by Sandy Sorowitz, but the extra-point attempt failed. Tilden pulled away later in that quarter as Bliey crashed through the Middie line for another tally. As the game progressed, it seemed almost impossible to stop the charging Bliey. Although Mike Vulpis scored for Midwood in the final period, we just couldn't go all the way. It was mostly Bliey, who collected 20 of Tilden's 28 points, who caused the downfall of the Middie team. The final score read Tilden 28, Midwood 14.

Though the boys on the 1959 Midwood football team, didn't bring the title to Glenwood Road, they deserve all the accolades the school can give. By winding up with a 3-2 record, they became the first football team in Midwood's history to compile a winning record. Congratulations, boys!

Soccer Team Downs Erasmus; 5-Game Loss Streak Snapped

By LENNY BERMAN

The Midwood soccer team has completed the bulk of its 1959 season, with a 2-7-3 record. The Middies' two victories include an impressive 2-1 win over Erasmus and a hard fought 1-0 triumph over Madison. Midwood has been on the short side of several close contests, including 1-0 defeats at the hands of East New York, Brooklyn Auto, and Madison.

Mr. Moskowitz, coach of the soccer squad, reports, "I am very much satisfied with the team's defensive play, but our offensive forward line is disappointingly weak. To try to remedy this situation, I shifted co-captain Artie Amman from center halfback to center forward in an attempt to bolster our scoring punch. The boys responded to this change by breaking their five-game scoreless streak by defeating Erasmus after tying Wingate."

The coach acknowledges the outstanding play of Steve Gottlieb, co-captains Artie Amman and Howie Cohen, Bernard Herschenfang, Barry Wesis, Kyriacos (Tony) Sozomenon, Lior Grinberg, Martin Schulman, Mike Silverstein, Joe Olewitz, and Dave Berner. He reports that "Steve Gottlieb has been the team's most improved player, and that Barry Weiss has been a consistant mainstay on the forward line."

Kickoff

ROY MEYERS

We often see in this world that hard work and perserverance do not always lead to complete success. This can perhaps best summarize the story of Midwood's 1959 football team.

This year's squad was one of the finest elevens in Blue and White history. They showed their great ability and determination at the very beginning of the season when they came from behind to beat Madison 24-20 in the waning moments of the game. In this clash, they exhibited a potent offensive punch that was lacking in so many of our past teams.

After a costly loss to John Jay, the Middies repeated a chapter of history by upsetting highly-rated Boys' High, as they had done in 1957. This time the score was 16-6. The most significant point of this game was that the gridders outplayed Boys' High for the entire game. They didn't win the game on lucky breaks. They simply played great football for four full quarters. Boys' shifted to a single wing formation when their T attack sputtered, but Midwood rose to the occasion by containing this offense also. The Blue and White played alert defensive ball at all times.

A 14-8 victory over Erasmus, the league doormats, gave the Middies a 3-1 record. The stage was then set for the Tilden contest. The winner of this game would be awarded the division title. Many fans were optimistic about Midwood's chances. After all, the Blue and White had scored sixty-two points while allowing their opponents only forty-eight. In fact, since the Madison game Midwood's opposition had been held to a mere nine points per game average. The team worked hard in preparation for the big contest and at game time they were ready to tear Tilden apart. But the Blue and White's hopes were not to be realized.

The gridmen discovered that it takes more than hard work and determination to stop a human tornado such as Ronnie Bliey. The score of the game was 28-14 with the Middies on the short end of the count.

While it is true that Bliey's three touchdowns killed the Blue and White's title hopes, our team still rates as one of the division's best. It is perhaps even more important that the team has gained the respect of the student body. You no longer hear derogatory remarks when the football team is being discussed.

The players feel deeply disappointed about losing the title. But they shouldn't think that they let their school down. In fact, they put the name of Midwood back on the schoolboy football map. Let's hope that next year's squad can keep it there.

Co-Captains Fishkin And Honig to Lead This Year's Cagers

Midwood's basketball team, after following a rugged practice schedule, now seems well-prepared to face its 18-game schedule which starts on November 13, with a non-league game against Eastern District.

The team, coached by Mr. Dave Fried, is composed of fifteen boys, each still fighting for a position in the starting five. At the present time, the most impressive players are: seniors—co-captains Ted Fishkin and Roger Honig, Mike Cohen, Pete Abbey, Jerry Feinstein, and Walt Potterton, and juniors Jack Kushnick, Al August and George Leder. The rest of the squad is made up of juniors and sophs. They are: Ken Kontrath, Jimmy Elkins, Mark Merkel, Ken Spalter, Ronny Salmonson, and Tom Markey.

This year, the team has a lot of depth. In addition to an exceptional group of seniors, there are also many talented lower termers. Coach Fried had this to say on the topic: "If the seniors do their job, fine; if not, we will play with the youngsters."

When asked to compare last year's team to the present one, Fried said: "Last year we had some fine players in Elliott Gerson, Bruce Dribbon, Richie McGoldrick, and Charlie Lindenhauer. However, this season, practically the entire squad is capable of playing varsity ball, and many of them acquired experience by playing last season. While last year's team compiled a good overall record of 9-9, including a heartbreaking loss to division-champ Erasmus, this year's squad should outdo this record if it lives up to its potential. The present team has gained much experience by playing together in a spring basketball league. They played against different high schools and showed a good deal of promise.

The boys really want to play ball, and since they have worked together as a team before, the chances for a successful season look very good."

Archie Sader

SCHNEIDER LEADS RIFLE SQUAD; TEAM BEATS JAY AND HAMILTON

Midwood's rifle team, under the guidance of Mr. B. Cohen, launched the 1959-60 campaign by beating John Jay by an overwhelming score of 774 to 574. Midwood then beat Fort Hamilton 838 to 765 and lost a tight one to Lincoln 858 to 844.

On October 8, Midwood's sharpshooters" proved to be too strong for a weak John Jay team. Captain Sam Schneider and co-captain Arthur Morris led Midwood's attack by scoring 175 and 159 points out of a possible 200, respectively, thus outshooting John Jay by a two hundred point margin, 774 to 574.

Midwood then suffered a defeat at the hands of a powerful Tech team by the score of 866 to 839. Again Midwood's high scorers were Sam Schneider with a score of 177 and Arthur Morris with a score of 172.

Midwood regained its touch by beating Fort Hamilton and Alexander Hamilton by scores of 809 to 791 and 838 to 765 respectively. The outstanding marksmen in the Fort Hamilton match for Midwood were Sam Schneider with a score of 180 and Howard Altman with a score of 166. Again captain Sam Schneider led Midwood's scoring attack by rolling up a score of 178 in the Alexander Hamilton match. Bill Gralnick, manager of the team, was outstanding with a score of 171.

Midwood took a hard loss at the hands of first place Lincoln, losing by a mere 14 points, 858 to 844. Sam Schneider who has maintained a very respectable 178 average throughout Midwood's first 5 matches had a score of 178. Howard Altman also sparkled with a score of 172.

According to Coach Cohen, the team is handicapped by the lack of a rifle range on which to practice. Another factor to be considered is that Midwood lost five members of last year's second-place team, when they were graduated in June. This year, two more members of the team, Co-captain Arthur Morris and Dave Soskis, will be graduated in June.

Bob Mohl